

## BENDIGO REGIONAL MEETING

Cooperatives in the Bendigo area should note that a meeting is being planned to be held in Bendigo in the last week of March 1980. Further details will be in our next information sheet.

## MEETING WITH USA FARMER COOPERATIVE LEADER

Mr. Ken Naden, President of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives in the USA will be visiting Australia in March 1980.

The Cooperative Federation will be organising a meeting on the afternoon of Friday March 14th 1980 in Melbourne to which Chairmen, Directors and Chief Executives of Cooperatives are invited to learn some of the ingredients for success of the many Agricultural Cooperatives large and small in the USA.

The National Council of Farmer Cooperatives was formed in 1929 and has represented Farmer Cooperatives in Washington on national and international matters. It works closely with the Government and federal regulatory agencies. It represents some 5,800 individual Cooperatives - more than 75% of the U.S. total - with a combined farmer membership of nearly 3 million.

## REPORT FROM THE FEDERAL COUNCIL

Our Victorian representatives on the Federal Council, Messrs. Ted Long and Brian Macintosh, reported to the November meeting of our Council that a start has been made by the Cooperative Federation of New South Wales in operating its centralised banking scheme.

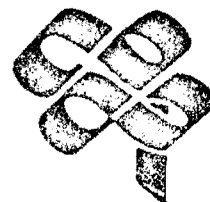
It was also reported that the Federal Council having had joint meetings with representatives of the Australian Federation of Credit Union Leagues, has agreed in principle with further studies being undertaken by its Finance Committee into the matter of development of a specialist Bank serving the needs of Cooperatives.

## FEDERAL PRESIDENT OVERSEAS

Mr. Irwin Hunter, President of the Cooperative Federation of Australia spent the last week in November 1979 in Malaysia attending meetings of the Regional Council of the International Cooperative Alliance, associated Committee meetings and a Board meeting of the International Cooperative Trading Organisation.

# THE CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA

## Co-operative Information



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## SEASONAL GREETINGS

The President and Council of the Cooperative Federation of Victoria send warmest Christmas greetings to Directors, Management, Staff and Members of Cooperatives throughout Victoria and best wishes for continued business and Cooperative success in 1980.

## LOOKING BACK

At the November meeting of the Federation Council time was given to reviewing some of our activities in this past year. These have included -

- Organising a successful Annual Conference - a report of which is attached
- Organising two Regional Meetings
- Developing a valuable Financial Administrators Discussion Group
- Preparing and introducing a detailed trading and financial budget system for one member
- Providing Advisory services for Cooperatives
- Personal liaison with the Minister administering the Cooperation Act
- Making submissions on needed legislative amendments
- Active membership of the Cooperative Advisory Council
- Active membership of the Cooperative and Small Business sub-Committee of the Victorian Employment Committee
- Close affiliation with national body - the Cooperative Federation of Australia.

## LOOKING FORWARD

Personal contact has still to be made with many Cooperatives in the State and follow-up visits made to those already contacted.

Policies of the Council for the 1980 programme include -

- Continuation of the 1979 programmes for Regional Meetings into other areas of the State
- Development of programmes for increased collaboration amongst Cooperatives particularly in the area of finance investment and resources
- Maintaining a watching brief on legislation both corporate and taxation
- Surveying needs and developing programmes of education and training for Cooperative Directors, Staff and Member Relations.

## COOPERATIVE STRENGTH IN AUSTRALIA

The Cooperative Federation of Australia has estimated that at 30th June 1978 there were 9,900 Cooperatives with 2.6 million members in Australia. This figure excludes Permanent Building Societies. The following statistics have been supplied -

T O T A L				
	Coops	Members	Turnover \$000's	Credit Union & Terminating Bldg. Society Loans to Members
New South Wales	4,308	1,462,336	744,966	545,866
Victoria	3,109	463,116	516,624	241,567
Queensland	1,269	290,619	434,142	316,431
Western Australia	695	151,630	470,240	72,082
South Australia	96	195,621	111,736	64,959
Tasmania	186	60,327	35,372	23,270
A.C.T. & N.T.	250	39,692	1,930	28,048
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,913</b>	<b>2,663,341</b>	<b>2,315,010</b>	<b>1,291,223</b>

	<u>Coops</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Turnover</u> <u>\$000's</u>	<u>Loans to Members</u>
Producers	409	335,173	1,912,763	-
Consumers	454	664,140	319,350	-
Community	1,307	286,581	82,897	-
Credit Unions	689	1,117,844	-	867,072
Terminating Bldg. Societies	7,054	259,603	-	424,151
	<b>9,913</b>	<b>2,663,341</b>	<b>2,315,010</b>	<b>1,291,223</b>